



## September Quiz

A member who is arrears in payment of his/her dues is not allowed to do which of the following?

- A. Attend the annual meeting of the organization
- B. Attend regular meetings of the organization
- C. Make motions at meetings
- D. Speak in debate
- E. Vote on motions
- F. Vote for officers

The answer from Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 11<sup>th</sup> edition:

Many people erroneously assume that members are automatically prohibited from voting or otherwise participating if they show up at a meeting and are behind in their dues. According to RONR, however, simply being behind in payment of dues does not suspend a member's rights within the organization:

(p.406, II.25-30) "VOTING RIGHTS OF A MEMBER IN ARREARS. A member of a society who is arrears in payment of his dues, but who has not been formally dropped from the membership roll and is not under disciplinary suspension, retains the full rights of a voting member and is entitled to vote except as the by-laws may otherwise provide."

Some (or all) member rights MAY be suspended as a consequence of disciplinary proceedings or by some specific provision in the bylaws as you can read in the footnote on p.6 of *RONR*. Otherwise, all of the answers A thru F do not apply.

Do organizations you belong to (or consult for) have provisions in their bylaws concerning delinquency of dues and being dropped from membership for non-payment of dues? (Hint: they probably should!)